

Message Text

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44

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 SY-05 EB-07 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6520

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENNA 7386

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, AU

SUBJECT: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION

REF: STATE 77789

1. THE IMPORTATION OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION INTO AUSTRIA FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES IS, WITH FEW LIMITATIONS, FULL LIBERALIZED. THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT THEREFORE REQUIRES NO IMPORT LICENSE FOR SUCH IMPORTS, AND ISSUES NO FORMAL DOCUMENT WHICH COULD BE USED BY OFFICE OF MUNITIONS CONTROL (MC) TO ESTABLISH GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE, APPROVAL OR LACK OF OBJECTION OF IMPORTATION.

2. RESTRICTIONS FOR AUSTRIAN CUSTOMS OFFICES CONCERNING TRAFFIC IN ARMS AND AMMUNITION ARE CONTAINED IN AN ORDINANCE ISSUED BY THE AUSTRIAN FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE DATED JUNE 15, 1967. A COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE IN GERMAN IS BEING FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON UNDER SEPARATE COVER.

3. THE CONTROL OF FIREARMS AFTER IMPORTATION IS STRICT AND IS GOVERNED BY THE WEAPONS LAW OF 1967. AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THIS LAW AND AN AMENDMENT THERETO ARE BEING FORWARDED UNDER SEPARATE COVER. POSSESSION OF FIREARMS IS CLEARLY DEFINED IN THE LAW.

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4. WITHIN MEANING OF THE WEAPON LAW WHOLESALE

AND/OR RETAIL GUN DEALERS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO RECORD
AND REPORT SALES. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE TO KEEP SUCH
RECORDS UNDER OTHER LAWS GOVERNING STATISTICS AND
TAXES. THE CUSTOMS OFFICES ALSO HAVE RECORDS FOR
STATISTICAL PURPOSES.MEEHAN

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